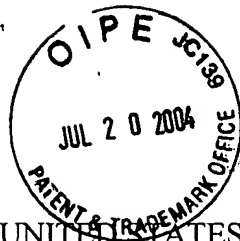


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PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: H. Tran
HITOSHI IWAI)
: Group Art Unit: 2861
Application No.: 10/796,096)
:
Filed: March 10, 2004)
:
For: LASER SCANNING)
: July 19, 2004
APPARATUS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

Japan 11-231250
Japan 2002-328326

These documents were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report, which is dated June 30, 2004, is enclosed. In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each document in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Japan 9-236770, which was also cited in the Search Report, was previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement dated March 22, 2004.

This application has received a Notice Of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311. Accordingly, this Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) and is accompanied by the \$180.00 fee specified at 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Consideration of the art cited herein is accordingly deemed proper, and such action is respectfully requested.

The concise explanation of relevance for the non-English documents cited above is provided in the European Search Report and by the English language abstracts included with the cited art.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neill", written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicant
Michael K. O'Neill
Registration No. 32,622

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